

## [Bradley Kennelly]

26040

Life History - [Jax?]

September 12, 1939

Bradley kennelly Kennelly

(General Manager)

(Municipal Terminal)

Naval Store Yards

Jacksonville, Florida.

Lillian [Stedman.?)

Mr. Kennelly was seated at his desk in the cool offices of the naval store yards. The breeze from the river and frag grant acent of the rosin gave a pleasant reception after the long trip from the city.

Mr. Kennelly said, " Are you sure that this is no humbug proposition, and you really have nothing to sell, either now or later ?

He continued, " Not long ago I came the office and there was note for me to call a number in New York City. I said, now who in the sam hill could be calling me from there. [So?] I called the operator and asked who was going to pay [forsh?] for the call and she told me that the party in New York would so I called and this the idea of it all.

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Seems that some rogue there had got together some junk on ports and naval stores and wanted to publish it and wanted me to say that to say that I'd take a thousand copies at 25 cents a copy to distribut here. This would have netted him about \$250.00 for subscriptions out of this office alone, he was on the way to big money quick.

“ And since you promise that there is nothing to sell and no scheme, I guess its allright to talk to you. You say the Federal Government is sponsoring this. O, yes I believe I have 2 have heard of the Federal Writers.

“I have been connected in this present capacity for nine years and I can honestly say that I 've never seen business so slow in this line ever before. And the record show too [t?] this is perhaps the worst period for the naval stores ever.

“ The only thing that will cause things to loosen up in another World War or some of the foreign countries and the United States to form trade relations enough to absorb this surplus we have on our hands. We have now on hand about 320,000 barrels. Worth about [350?] million dollars. And we have on hand and in storage [54,000?] barrels of turpentine.

“ The reason for this is that they have found so many substitutes for making paints and varnishes.

“ Since the government has taken the situation in hand [?] and have decided upon a different and better method of packing the tupentine and [rodin?], and storing is isn now done by the grade, we are able to keepour end here of the business up more efficiently than before.

The salary is small when taken itoo consideration that the responsibility of a 3 million dollar a year coroperation rests in your hands. All up and down the ports, Mobile, Savannah, New Orleans, Seattle and Los Angles the job pays more than twice what it pays here. [????]

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“ My salary is 4800.00 a year. The job is a political one and I have had luck to keep it nine years, and I guess it is good for a while yet.

At some of the steamship meetings, if you could be there and hear some of the men talking you would think that [Roosevelt?] is 3 the damdest fellow that ever lived, maybe because of some crow to pick with some labor union. It all depends on what is eatin them. Then again you'd think that they thought no better man ever lived old F. D. R. All in all in depnds on how they are stand with the labor Unions

“ Our non- organized white labor out here get 42 cents an hour and our organized colored labor gets 33 they will get more this month.

“ Yes, I am a party man why not. [Necessarily?] so. I have [played?] in the game of politics just for the fun there is in it, Not to get this job that was given to me as a Thank You.

“I try to be friendly with all the help, the white collar and the rest just as well, after all election time rolls around every now and then.

“ The man we go out for usually gets the office.

“ But with all the apparent smoothOrunning set-up there in still a very definite uncertainty connected with this job and there are times when I am not sure that I did the right thing to accept it.

“ Sometimes I wonder about the future. If a fellow [can?] make a [living?] in his own business for say twenty-five years, he usually can struggle on for the next twenty-five years and amnage to take care of himself in his old age. These political jobs are fine as long as they last. But they usually let a fellow down when he is too old to get himself a job.

“ I am learning how to pass the buck allright it looks like that is the key to success nowadays. Maybe I can become an expert at it.

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“ My father was a preacher and taught us to be good boys, at least he tried to do that.

“ All the education I got was little short of the seventh grade at the Central Grammar School, Jacksonville. The name of my school [??] of higher education was, Hard knocks and Experience. When you graduate from there you dont forget you lessons.

“ My brothers have been in th transportation business nearly all their lives. One brother is with the Express Company and the other one is in the trucking business, We were operating the business together when I gave it up to take this job. We have been in the business for about 25 years.

“ The trucking business is a hard one to beat for a steady year-round occupation that brings in excellent revenue.

“ I cant see where any personal life of mine would be of interest to you in this story. [” I was married?] “ I was married twenty-two years ago to a good woman and sicne th she died abut ten years ago I haven't had a desire to call on the parson again.

“ My daughter will graduate this year from [Wellesley?] College, I have tried to give her a happy home and every opportunity to be able to herself useful and happy after I leave her.

Mr. Kennelly seemed prefer not to talk further concerning himself. But after reflecting a moment added.

I own the home I live in at the beach and do not care to own more than my own home and a good car.

I love to go fishing and hunting, I usually take a bunchof the fellows from around here [?] the during the hunting season and pack a lunch for several days. I get more pleasure thorough that 4 than anything else that comes along.

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“ If you want to know something more about the naval store business let me introduce you to Raymond Gage. “ Come here [Professor?], he called to the man in the next office. You know Professor [Gage,?] Mrs. Stedman. Hes the man with the orchestra. Mr. Gage to seemed to take this introduction as it was the usuall usual manner of Mr. Kennellys. There was a alight smile on the faces of both men. Mr. Kennelly [?] said, this fellow knows more about the naval stores that I'll ever know. He has been with them for twenty-five year.

Mr. Gage said, “Well you know this is only a place of storage and packing. What you want is an interview with some of the turpentine men. They can give the most interseting part of the story.

“ Also have [uou?] you talked with Mr. Lee Powell and Mr. Charley Joseph of the Columbia Naval Stores.

They woul be able to tell you something better than we could, We are only a warehouse. But I shall be glad to talk with you anytime after this week.

“ Here are some samples that I have picked up for you, I heard that you were coming and I thought you'd like them. The lightest in color is the best grade and next to it is the second grade and so on in that manner it selected.